New Bedford March 4th
~~Wednes~~day night

Dear Maria,

I received your letter anent the bundle from the Boston Female, and am sorry to dis-appoint you, but I am afraid I must bang to, your glorious door again — I am never going to take upon myself the management of any society matters, such as "passing resolutions and voting supplies" — I feel no call and certainly no ability for the thing — Indeed I have an oath in Heaven against it — I am not above learning from any body, even Mary Parker, & from her I learn~~t~~ never to put myself in a place that I consider myself utterly incompetent to fill. Monday I will write by Joseph Congdon & let you know what is done — I shall consider I have done wonders if I get a letter addressed to you, which you may publish, but dont be too sanguine about that = I am to spend to-morrow evening at Susan Sabin's, when I will see what her movings are.

5 To day at noon Abraham came with your letter. I did not know him though I thought I had seen him befor, which

was a mistake. He left nothing about his family & removing his family Pinda I suppose he meant. I liked him very much. He wanted me when I wrote to tell you that he got here safe. He was put he said in the Jim Crow car, but rode in the inside of the stage. I understood him. He wants you to tell Pinda that at the place where he is staying are two old acquaintances of his, who came from the very place he did, Savannah I suppose & that he has not the least trouble in getting along. I told his story to Mr Howland, who was much interested & thinks he can give him some work immediately. There is great feeling for runaway slaves here, & it is rather a recommendation than otherwise. I dont doubt he will prosper. I should not think it at all safe though to publish his story, which is a great pity, for there never was a prettier one — Why did he not go to Guiana? He quoted you very often. It was "I & my lady" all the time — I will do every thing in my power for him —

I send you the proceedings of a late ministers meeting, which came out yesterday morning. This I consider as my thunder. The whole town rings with it — Every body understands it to be the abolitionists who are aimed at as well as I do. Rodney French you

may well suppose is rampant — The democratic paper has promised to publish, to-morrow, for him, the resolutions at the last annual meeting & Garrison's remarks. & they are to be got into the Mercury if possible — Mr Jackson is thought to be at the bottom of the affair, & it is a matter of considerable wonder how Mr Peabody can allow himself to be made such a fool of — Mr Spear, the brother of Sandy Bay Spear, & an abolitionist, (a Universalist!) was the only one who spoke against it, though the crafty Jackson conveys the impression that it was a unanimous vote. Ross, one of the old ministers, they say was present but he is most probably an ignorant man & did not understand it — Next sunday I goes to the church on the Hill (African) where bro Anthony preaches — Jackson you know is Phebe's brother. Oliver J. knows all about him. Smith married Leonard Wood's daughter — I carried her the petition but she refused to sign it. William Coffin called to-night & we agreed that now was the time for a lecture & Garrison is the man I should think he might come. Mr Howland in the warmth of his zeal offered to pay his passage, but whether he means to stand to that or not I dont know — We want somebody to come that the notice matter may be

fought out — If W. Coffin or Mr Congdon come to Boston they will make an effort to get Garrison — if Garrison could not Edmund is talked of — Now is evidently the time for somebody — Scan this paper very carefully — Our petition to the house goes in — morrow. Mary Salter & 150 others Did I not do well. I feel myself equal to that.

Maria W. Chapman
11 West Street
Boston

S. C. Baker

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Chinard
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Ms. A. 9.2, 14.88

I have just received a message from the Boston & A. R. R. Co. saying they will make an effort to get my petition through the house to-morrow. I have no knowledge of this before the time. Let Mary Salter & 150 others know it at 12 o'clock P.M. on that day.